

# The GARZETTE

August, 2001

Volume 11, Issue 8



## In This Issue:

<i>From the Oval Office</i>	1
<i>Metro Atlanta Repeaters</i>	2
<i>A Moment in GARS History</i>	4
<i>July Meeting Notes</i>	5
<i>Area Meeting and Exam Schedules</i>	6
<i>On the Air...</i>	9
<i>What I Did on My Summer Vacation</i>	11
<i>Georgia Games...</i>	12
<i>IRL Project</i>	13

## From the Oval Office

*By Susan Swiderski, AF4FO, GARS President*

Hi, fellow ham-sters,

How goes it? Hope you've all been enjoying a terrific summer so far. First off, before I forget, let me identify and thank that wonderful man of mystery who so generously provided all of those Entemann's goodies for us at Field Day. So, with a rousing drumroll and the blaring of trumpets, the curtain slowly rises to reveal... Tim Myland, KG4IQD, as our darlin' donut donor, our gracious goodie giver,



our swell sweet bun benefactor.... never mind, you get the idea. Thanks a lot Tim! We sure did enjoy them... you're a real sweet guy. (Sorry....I couldn't resist.)

If you missed the July meeting, you missed

another good one. Vester Scott did a terrific job presenting information and fielding questions on mobile operations, antennas, and safety. Besides the good program, another big plus was the large number of 1st time visitors, some of whom had visited us at Field Day, some of whom are recent licensees, and one who recently moved here from Illinois. Several of them joined the club, and I hope that they ALL enjoyed

*(Continued on page 8)*



**GARS President Susan Swiderski, AF4FO, and Co-Membership Chairwoman Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM share a happy moment at a recent gathering.**

SUSAN&-1.JPG

## THE GARZETTE

The GARZETTE is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word format or by email to N1TOQ@arrl.net. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the amateur radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The GARZETTE articles by other amateur radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and to The GARZETTE.

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The GARZETTE is published each month with the assistance of Hal Manning, who prints the news letter. Darren Pierce AG4BF does the final production work on The GARZETTE by folding & labeling. Barbara Moon, KF4UPN stamps and gets the end product to the Post Office each month. Many thanks to each of them and all article contributors.

**Deadline for submissions is the Week of the Monthly Meeting for inclusion in the following month's issue.**

For any additional information contact:

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All correspondence relating to articles posted in The GARZETTE or for information concerning advertising rates should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
P.O. Box 88  
Lilburn, GA 30048  
Attn: Newsletter Editor



## Metro Atlanta Repeater Frequencies

By Paul McInnish, K4BET

How many times have you heard someone say... "Hey, do ya know the frequency and PL tone for the Podunk repeater over yonder in Mary Retter?" Well, just maybe this list will be helpful to you... if you receive the Garzette via mail, you may want to cut this section out and keep it handy. Oh, you get it by e-mail? If you are not familiar with how to copy something out of an Adobe Acrobat (.pdf file format) and paste it into a blank document so you can print it... drop me a note and I will e-mail you this data table ready to send to the 'ol printer!

The completeness and accuracy does not come with a 100% money back guarantee so therefore, if you know of any **verifiable** changes, send an e-mail (K4BET@bellsouth.net) note to me and I'll update accordingly. The plan is to publish this list via the Garzette on a, not yet established, periodic basis. This month's article lists all 2 meter repeaters. 70 cm, 220, 6 meter, and 10 meter to appear in subsequent issues. Use and enjoy...

(continued on page 10)

## Estate Sale Items

Estate Sale of K4UN - Chad Burriss

Equipment containing various Amateur Radio items including the following:

- AEA PK232 TNC \$ 150
- Dentron GLA1000B HF Amp \$ 300
- Kenwood PS30 13.8 20 amp pwr supply \$ 65
- Kenwood PS50 13.8 20 amp pwr supply \$ 85
- Kenwood TM221A 2 meter transceiver \$ 100
- Kenwood TM32A Dual Band 2m-440 Transceiver \$ 175
- Kenwood TS440S/AT HF transceiver 1.8-30 Mhz \$ 525
- Timewave DSP-599ZX DSP Processor \$ 275
- Yaesu FT5200 Dual Band 2m-440 Transceiver, SP 7 Spk \$ 200
- Yaesu FT50R Dual Band 2m-440 HT \$ 175

There are other items too numerous to mention. If interested, please contact  
Lee Flack, KD4HPD, at 770-465-6415.

**STAY CONNECTED!**

- Call the nets
- Attend the Meetings
- Use the Email List
- Check the Website
- [Www.gars.org](http://www.gars.org)

**Items for Sale**

TS440S transceiver  
 Astron RS35A 12 volt power supply  
 MFJ Versa tuner III antenna tuner  
 AMP Supply LA1000A 1KW Linear Amplifier  
 Hygain 3 Band-2 element Model Th2MKS beam antenna  
 Telex Hy-gain 14AVQ/WB vertical antenna  
 Mini-Products HQ-1 Hybrid-Quad antenna  
 Desk with mike and headphones

All the equipment in good condition, contacted 282 different countries and islands via DX.

Contact Paul Gericke KR4RG at 770-381 -9658, asking price \$900.00.

**More Items for Sale**

Drake TR7 with Power Supply  
 Drake L7 with Power Supply  
 Drake Desk Microphone  
 Drake MN2000 Antenna Tuner

Contact Steve Kacinec at 770-978-2627 or by email at [kaninec@mindspring.com](mailto:kaninec@mindspring.com).

**Still More Items for Sale**

2 Yaesu 8500 Dual Band Mobile Rigs. One comes with a standard microphone and the other with the "Mr. Potato Head" Mic. Recently serviced by Yaesu and in good condition. \$250.00 each. Contact Lee Flack , KD4HPD, at 770-465-6415.

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♦ ♦ ♦

## A Moment in GARS History

*(GARS Historian Harry Holmes, K4HJH, recently had a QSO with one of GARS founding fathers, Bob Busch, WD4BKD. Here is an excerpt from their conversation).*

June 17, 2001 1745 UTC 14.240

“CQ CQ CQ This is Special Event Station Whiskey 4 Alfa, celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society and Amateur Radio Appreciation Week in Gwinnett County Georgia... calling CQ 20 meters and standing by”

“Whiskey 4 Alpha this is Whiskey Delta 4(QSB)”

“Whiskey Delta 4, question mark, this is Whiskey 4 Alpha... please come back with your suffix”

“Bravo Kilo Delta, QSL?”

“Roger, Roger... Whiskey Delta 4 Bravo Kilo Delta, you are 4 by 4 name here is Harry, QTH is Lilburn Georgia, over.”

“ QSL, Whiskey 4 Alpha, you are also 4 by 4, name here is Bob, QTH is New Jersey, I am one of the original GARS members, over.”

“ Fine Business Bob, great to have you check in to our Special Event.”

Thus began an exciting QSO followed by several email communications. After three nights of attempting a schedule on 40 and 20 meters, contact was made on 14.270 for a 20 minute QSO between K4HJH and WD4BKD. This was followed by more emails birthing a new friendship thru Ham Radio. What a hobby!!

July 12, 2001 2325 UTC

Land line call WD4BKD to K4HJH. Nice conversation highlighted by plans for a monthly schedule on 14.270 the fourth Thursday of each month beginning July 26. Bob also had a chance to talk with Susan AF4FO our distinguished President.

”Bob” is Robert Busch, who moved north quite some time ago. He is interested in renewing his GARS membership and possibly visiting us in the fall.

Bob has related some interesting things about the early years of GARS. Some of these I hope to share with you in future issues of the GARZETTE. I am sure he will give me more items of interest during future QSOs.

Bob is the only log entry I had for the Special Event. I went QRT after our QSO... believing that this was a very special contact that somehow was all I was to have that session. Anyhow...I was so excited I couldn't remember my name much less my call.

BTW....everyone is invited to participate in the monthly schedules. Time is 2100 local time on 20 meters at 14.270 +-5. 73 de K4HJH “High Jinx” Harry, Historian

## GWINNETT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

### July Meeting Minutes

July 19, 2001

*Submitted by Sharon Carter, KG4HKO, GARS Secretary*

President Susan Swiderski, AF4FO, opened the meeting at 7:30 PM.

Introduction of officers: Susan AF4FO, president; Sid K4SID, vice president, Dan KF4YSU, treasurer; Bill AB0KF, activities manager; and Sharon, KG4HKO, secretary.

Introduction of visitors: Jared KG4OEA, Charles KG4OEB, Dave KG4OJR, Terry WA9WNE, Brandon RMS, Bruce KG4MQL, John KC4RFK, Wendell KG4GMU, Matt KG4 OJO, and wife Ashley, Gary KG4NJZ

Sodas -- \$1, free to first time visitors

Present -- 49

SECRETARY'S REPORT accepted

TREASURER: new budget approved

SCOUTS: (Victor) Venture Crew -- ages 14- 20, next meeting will be the 1st Tues. in Aug, JR GARS -- ages 10-14; Field Day patches avail. for sale

VP -- presented scholarship establishment info. -- handout.

ACTIVITIES: club programs

Aug 4 Buford 5k Run -- need volunteers -- sign-up sheet

Club crank-up tower evaluation committee volunteers needed -- Ed, see sign-up sheet

Club auction -- sign-up for committee -- @ Briscoe Field airport hangar --

Oct. 20 -- no charge, tables & chairs available, possible cooking facilities.

Sheriff's dept. says no permit or license needed.

Money raised would be donated to scholarship fund.

Thank you to Tim Myland KG4 who donated Entemann's goodies at Field Day

Fall Classic Fly-in with EAA, Oct 6

Gold Rush Days Oct 12-14, also JOTA -- 4,000 cubs attended booth last year -- K2BSA -- have applied to talk to ISS that weekend.

Aug. 4-5, Tybee Island Lighthouse on air for National Lighthouse Day -- K4T.  
-- 14.260

New Members -- Bruce Reavis -- KG4MQL, Renewals -- Fred and Patricia Runkle

No Unsung Hero this month -- both out-of-town

AB0KF, auto accident July 2 - good to have him back

Guest Speaker/Program -- Vestor Scott-- Mobile antennas

RAY RECTOR --moonbase contact w/ China - consider trying to get him for a future program

ADJOURNED -- 9:35

## **Metro Atlanta Club Meetings**

### **First Tuesday**

#### **Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers**

Old Hickory House  
5490 Chamblee/Dunwoody Rd, Dunwoody  
Dutch dinner is at 6:30 PM, followed by meeting.  
Talk In 145.410(-)

#### **Kennehoochee ARC**

First United Methodist Church in Marietta  
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM  
Talk In 146.880(-)

### **First Thursday**

#### **Atlanta Radio Club**

American Red Cross Building, Lindberg Plaza  
Meeting is at 7:30 PM  
Talk In -146.820(-)

#### **N.E. Georgia ARC**

Jefferson Civic Center  
Off of Memorial Dr. toward Winder from  
Jefferson  
Meeting is at 6:30 PM  
Talk In - 147.225(+)

#### **North Fulton Amateur Radio League**

Shoney's Restaurant  
Holcomb Bridge Road at grimes Bridge Road  
Dinner at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM  
Talk In - 145.47(-)

### **Second Thursday**

#### **Alford Memorial Radio Club**

Killian Hall, Killian Hill Road  
Lilburn  
Dinner at 6:00 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM  
Talk In - 146.760(-)

### **Second Saturday**

#### **East Atlanta LAN**

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church  
Dunwoody  
Meeting is at 10:00 AM  
Talk In - 145.410(-) and 443.025(+)

### **Third THURSDAY**



#### **Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society**

Central Baptist Church  
Gwinnett Drive  
Lawrenceville  
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM in the fellowship hall.  
Talk In -147.075(+) and 444.525(+)



## **Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule**

**GARS** publishes Metro Atlanta area VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions.

### **First Sunday**

WCARS VEC  
2:00 PM  
(Except July and September)  
Johnson High School  
3305 Poplar Springs RD, Gainesville  
Terry Jones, W4TL (770)967-6364

### **First Saturday**

9:00AM  
Clayton County Emergency  
Management Building  
7496 N. McDonough St., Jonesboro  
George White, KN4NG (770)361-6850

### **Second Tuesday**

7:00PM  
Walton EMC  
3645 Lenora Church Rd, Snellville  
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA  
(770)498-7759

### **Second Saturday, Odd Months**

CA VEC  
8:30 AM  
Stone Mountain Methodist Church  
5312 West Mountain St.  
Stone Mountain  
Bob Verone, W4ETN  
(770)978-3179

### **Third Saturday**

CA VEC  
9:00AM  
Marietta First United Methodist Church  
Room 305, 56 Whitlock Ave  
Marietta  
Larry Huff, WA4CQZ  
(770)955-3171

### **Fourth Tuesday**

ARRL VEC  
7:00 PM  
United Way Service Center  
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville  
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK  
(770)942-6466.

### **Fourth Friday**

W5YI VEC  
7:00 PM  
St. John Neumann Church  
801 Tom Smith Road  
Lilburn  
Headphones Provided!  
Howie Gould, W9HG  
(770)921-8362



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## GARS Communication System

### 6 Meter Repeater

53.110 (-1 MHz) MHz  
82.5 PL

### Main Repeater Site

Oak Street, Lawrenceville

### 2 Meter Repeater

147.075(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone

### Main Repeater Site

Oak Street, Lawrenceville

### Backup Repeater Site

Lanier Mountain, Snellville

### Remote Receive Sites

Bogan Road, Buford  
Goshen Springs Road, Norcross  
Lanier Mountain, Snellville

### 70 Cm Repeater

444.525(+) MHz  
82.5 PL

### Main Repeater Site

Lanier Mountain, Snellville

### Remote Receive Sites

*Under construction*

Bogan Road, Buford  
Goshen Springs Road, Norcross

### APRS

144.390 -- 1200 Baud  
W4GR/Relay



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Mark Justice

**From the Oval Office***(continued from page 1)*

themselves enough that they'll want to come back. Former members, Fred and Pat Runkle even paid us a visit,,,, AND re-joined the club! Welcome back!! (We're thrilled to have you guys back again.)

Sid, K4SID, presented some basic information to us on what we need to establish a GARS scholarship program, and to kick it off, \$29.55 was collected at the meeting from the sale of soft drinks. (Hey! You have to start somewhere!) Proceeds from the beverage sales each month will slowly, but surely, accumulate. If you're interested in helping Sid establish criteria for the scholarship and joining the team to later evaluate the applications, please get in touch with either Sid or me. Carter Wood, KF4HLF, has already volunteered his assistance, and he has extensive experience working as a scholarship officer for another organization, so we're off to a good start.

Lest you think that it'll take forever to amass enough money to actually bestow on some deserving student, fear not! Our BIG fund-raiser will be coming up on October 20, when GARS will host its first ever auction at Brisco Field airport in Lawrenceville. Mark it on your calendar now, because it should be a lot of fun! Don't forget.... we're a 501(c)3 organization, so if you have some radio gear, antennas, test equipment, or whatever, that you'd like to donate, it's tax-deductible. It's gonna take a lot of people to make this a success, so whether you can help arrange tables and chairs in the hangar, set the guidelines for the auction itself, or cook hot dogs... there's something for everyone who wants to help. So please, HELP, HELP, HELP!! If participation is good and we all have fun with this, this could become another special annual event for GARS like the techfest... And it will also serve the higher purpose of funding a scholarship, which is good PR for amateur radio, and good PR for GARS. Help me make it happen.

It's possible that all may not be lost with the club tower, after all. Ed, WA2BIG, Marty, KE4MLH, and David, KA4KKF, have volunteered to evaluate

the damage to it and make a recommendation to the club. The hope is that we can possibly salvage it as a shorter version of its former self. We'll keep you informed.

Other upcoming events: October 6, GARS has been asked to participate in Good Neighbor Day at Brisco Field. Y'know how we've run the station out of the hangar for the EAA's Fall Classic Fly-In for the past however many years? Well, this year is supposed to be a "whole airport" shindig, with the community invited, and we get to show our stuff again with a station and do a little PR for amateur radio and GARS. The following weekend will be the Gold Rush Days with the Scouts, and some GARS volunteers will be needed to help demonstrate amateur radio to a bunch of very enthusiastic boys.

Lots of stuff happening, lots of fun to be had. Next month's program, August 16, will be presented by Larry Scheff, who, earlier this year, wrote the 2-part article for QST magazine on maximizing the selectivity of your receiver. Come on out and learn how you can make the most of all those bells and whistles on your new rig.

Well, that's about it for now. Hope to hear some of you on the club nets, and don't forget our 6 M net on Wednesday nights at 9 PM. We have a small core group of people who are there every week, but we'd sure love to have a bunch more of you join us. It's a terrific repeater... let's use it! And, as a final note, get in touch with Bill, KG4FXG, if you're interested in getting yourself some spiffy club apparel or a club badge. (We still have 3 Field Day shirts left, too... in size XXL... cost, \$10)

Take care, All. Until next month, this is AF4FO, signing clear. 73



## **On The Air with Barry Zoll, N1TOQ**

*By Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM*

This month's on the air article features Barry Zoll, N1TOQ. Barry was born in Salem, Massachusetts, and graduated from Salem High School. He had his own business, which was a boat dealership, and he now works for Honda where he has worked for 12 years.

He has always been interested in radios, and in 1987, someone in a yellow Corvette who pulled into his bug dealership had a "strange license plate", so Barry asked him about it. It turns out that the "strange license plate" is a ham tag. That was one of his first introductions to ham radio. Later, Barry was enrolled in a technician class but had to drop out because the time of the class didn't work out with his schedule. So, he ended up using books to study for his technician exam instead. He took his first test in Rochester, New Hampshire and had to wait over an hour to take the test. He passed the test and became a ham at age 33, in November of 1994. Four weeks later, his ticket came in the mail, and, he bought his first radio, an Icom T21A. When it was time to learn code, he used a MFJ code tutor, cassette tapes, and a computer program to study. Johnny Fearon, W4WKP pushed him to upgrade, so, he went to technician with morse code, and is now a general.

Barry's first contact was to N1ORC, Arthur, who had a very distinctive voice and was on every repeater in Boston. Barry was working in Miami, when he talked to Arthur, who happened to be vacationing there at the same time. Barry's favorite part of amateur radio is the people he gets to meet and talk to, and he likes the way everyone cares about and is there for everyone else when people are in need. For example, there is always someone there when you need help putting up an antenna. Barry likes GARS because of the people and friendship. Although all of Barry's QSOs have been interesting, one time when he was vacationing in Naples, FL, on his Icom T21A 5-watt HT, he was sitting on the pier, when he through his Callsign out on the Naples repeater, and talked to the Bahamas. Barry would like to communicate with someone where there is a hurricane taking

place to keep their spirits up and hear their thoughts and feelings. One of the most fun things Barry has done in amateur radio occurred around the fourth of July, when Barry was living up north, and his friend was out on his boat. His friend had GPS on the boat and Barry called him via radio to see where he was. Barry requested his coordinates. Then, Barry plugged the coordinates into his GPS and followed the instructions it gave him on how to get to his friend. When he finished the course, he looked up, and there was his friend, and they were in contact via radio the whole time. Barry visited W1AW once, because when he was new to the hobby, he drove by it regularly. He went in and looked around but wasn't sure what was going on. He doesn't remember much about it, and would like to go there again some day.

Barry's main and current rigs consist of a Yaesu FT8100, an Alinco DX70, and a Kenwood TS450. He also has assorted handhelds, etc. The bands Barry works are VHF, UHF, and 20 meter, mobile HF. Although he does more listening than talking on HF, his favorite bands on HF are 40, 17, and 20 meters.

Barry is married to Susan, who is not really interested in ham radio, but is "coming around." He is blessed with 10 year old Hannah and 6 year old Sierra. Hannah is very interested in amateur radio and is studying for her test. Sierra, although still a bit young is interested and does like to talk.

Barry's advice to new hams is as follows. Get involved in a club and activities, because unlike other hobbies, there don't seem to be any barriers or prejudices. No one cares about money, race, religion, ethnic group, etc. People in amateur radio just care about having fun and helping others.

*Thank you to Mr. Barry for his time in this interview and his patience of trying three or four times to find a date we were both available. Although, we finally had to just do it over the phone.*

*Editor's Note: Thanks to Andrea for taking time from her busy schedule to prepare a monthly article.*

# **Metro Atlanta Repeater Frequencies** (continued from page 2)

**2 METERS**

<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>SHIFT/PL</b>	<b>CALL</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>				
				146.925	-	WA4ASI	Covington
				146.940	-	W4VO	Rome
				146.970	-	N4OD	Atlanta
				147.000	-	WA4NNO	Atlanta
				147.015	-	N4GIS	Cartersville
						NGDRT	
145.110	-	88.5	KR4HV	Douglasville	147.030	+	W4REI Atlanta Atlanta
				SCARS			
145.130	-	110.9	K4SEX	Newnan	Airport Radio Association		
				BGMRC	147.060	+	N4CLA Roswell North Ful-
145.150	-		W4AQL	Atlanta	ton ARL		
				Georgia Tech ARC	147.075	+	82.5 WD4JXR
145.170	-		WA4DIW	Jonesboro	Gwinnett ARS		
				Clayton County CD	147.105	+	100.0 WB6RTH Atlanta
145.190	-	77.0	WB6RTH	Atlanta	CARES		
145.210	-		WA4EPK	Fayette-	147.150	+	103.5 K4BYK, Cumming
ville				Fayette County RA	Sawnee Mtn RG		
145.230	-	151.4	WB4JEH	Conyers	147.165	+	88.5 WD4LYT Tyrone
					147.195	+	85.4 K4JPD, Atlanta SE DX
145.270	-	103.5	K4PLM	Cherokee County	Club		
				Pine Log Mtn ARC	147.210	+	162.2 KF4GHF Conyers
145.290	-	88.5	W4IBM	Atlanta IBM ARC			
145.350	-	146.2	W4DOC	Chestnut	147.285	+	WA4VBX Atlanta
				Mtn Atlanta Radio Club	GA Power ARS		
145.370	-	100.0	KB4IZF	Jasper	147.300	+	WB4YSV Rome
145.410	-		W4PME	Atlanta	147.345	+	N4NEQ Marietta
				MATPARC	Big Shanty RG		
145.430	-		K4LCI	Marietta	147.360	+	88.5 WA4CLC Douglas-
				Hewlett-Packard ARC	ville Sweetwater RC		
145.450	-		W4BOC	Decatur			
				Alford Memorial ARC			
145.470	-		N4CLA	Sweat Mtn			
				North Fulton ARL			
145.490	-		WA4QPL	Marietta			
				Lockheed ARC			
146.625	-		WA4UPE	Union City			
146.640	-	131.8	W4FWD	Carrollton			
146.655	-	118.8	N4NFP	Marietta			
				Big Shanty RG			
146.670	-	131.8	W4ABP	Gainesville			
				Lanierland ARC			
146.685	-		KB4VAG	Fayette-			
ville				Fayette County RA			
146.730	-		KD4NC	Marietta			
				WestLAN Packet			
146.760	-	107.2	W4BOC	Stone Mtn			
				Alford Memorial ARC			
146.775	-	118.8	N4NEQ	Marietta			
				Big Shanty RG			
146.790	-	110.9	K4SEX	Newnan			
				BGMRC			
146.820	-	146.2	W4DOC	Atlanta			
				Atlanta Radio Club			
146.850	-		K4DVJ	Dallas K4DVJ			
146.880	-	100.0	W4BTI	Marietta			
				Kennehoochee ARC			
146.895	+	77.0	WD4LUQ	Yorkville			

### What I Did On My Summer Vacation

By Earl Whatley, AF4FG

At first glance it looked like a multi element Yagi with the left side of the first two directors hanging to one side. Both vertical and horizontal VHF antennas were mounted on the same mast and a vertical HF antenna was peeking over the edge of the roof. It wasn't the kind of thing you'd expect to see on an imposing government granite building on the mall in Washington, DC, but there it was on the Smithsonian's Museum of American History. There had to be a ham station somewhere inside.

The gray haired lady at the information desk probably gets a thousand questions a day but she acted like "ham radio" and "amateur radio" were foreign terms. There was, she said, a radio station in the basement, on the west side, somewhere in the Information Age exhibit.

Down the hall to the west wing, past the ADA exhibit and the Greenville lunch counter, just to the left of a statue of a topless George Washington (boy is that weird) is the escalator to the basement. The escalator empties in front of the Information Age exhibit. From there it was through the entrance, down a winding hall, around corners, up and down ramps past old telephones, a ship board wireless set (inoperable), old computers, old record players, old TVs, a mock up of a NASA command center, and countless other old things - until finally, just around the corner from the exit, was an amateur radio station – unmanned.

Behind a chest high counter, on eight shelves, locked behind Plexiglas sat a station to be proud of. Old and new HF rigs, VHF rigs, tuners, bugs, mikes, dummy loads and a host of test equipment sat idle. A computer monitor, sitting on the counter, showed a map of the earth and traced the path of the International Space Station but even this was locked behind a huge sheet of Plexiglas that extended from the counter top to the ceiling. A notice on the wall proclaimed that this was Amateur Radio Station NN3SI and it was operational between 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM each day. It was 4:30.

The sign also said that guest operators were welcome. Just call 202-357-1840 to make arrangements and bring a copy of your license. I called. No answer.

The rest of the day was downhill. There was still a lot to see but most of it was "look, don't touch" stuff and the nostalgic appeal is lost on those who aren't already familiar with object of the exhibit. One plow looks pretty much like another and what's so rare about a '51 GMC pick up truck? Ham radio? That's different.

I finally got an answer about 9 the next morning. Yes, there was to be a volunteer operator at the station that day, but one is supposed to call a day or two in advance to be sure it was OK to stop by. There weren't any other guest operators scheduled, though, so maybe the station operator would be willing to work me in. This bureaucrat obviously didn't know much about hams.

We got off the Metro at the Smithsonian exit, walked past the "Castle", across the mall to the Museum of American History, down the hall, past the half naked George Washington (he's an innie), down the escalator and into the exhibit through the exit door. One turn to the right and there it was. The Plexiglas had disappeared and Paul Gates, KD4JF, was ending a QSO with a buddy in Chattanooga. Surprisingly, there wasn't a crowd around this, the most interesting exhibit in the building and there wasn't a guest operator at the mike! I couldn't believe my luck.

*(Continued on page 12)*

## **GARS / Gwinnett ARES at Georgia Games by Wayne Chapman KG5WU**

I'd like to publicly thank a number of people who help us provide amateur radio communications during the recently completed Georgia Games Championships, held in and around metro Atlanta between July 14 and July 22.

Carol KG4ETR and Victor W4VEG provided coverage at the Rowing event held at Lake Lanier, and also worked the Shooting event at Wolf Creek Olympic Shooting Center. Last I heard, they were headed to watch Ultimate Frisbee after finishing their tour of duty at Shooting. Thanks very much, Carol and Victor, for helping out both weekends!

Winn N1TWX worked the Swimming venue at Mountain View Aquatics Center in Marietta. Thanks, Winn. We appreciate your help!

Drady KG4OAH and Drady KG4OAG helped out at the Taekwando venue at the South Fulton Community Center. Thanks for coming out to help and to watch some exciting bouts! Drady KG4OAH also worked at the Roller Hockey venue at The Cooler in Alpharetta on Thursday evening.

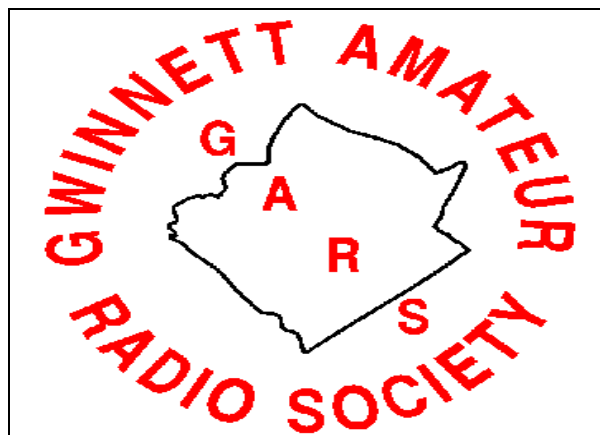
Mary Ann KE4AXE and Lee KD4HPD worked two days at the Boxing venue in Doraville. It's hard to get a signal out of that location, and Lee's remote base came in very handy! Thanks, Mary Ann and Lee, for your help.

Jeff KF4JVD operated Net Control from the Life University campus in Marietta on Saturday one weekend, and again on Tuesday night, while the BMX Cycling event was underway in Peachtree City. He also worked at Roller Hockey on Friday night and again as Net Control both days the next weekend. He also secured our use of the Southern Polytechnic ARC repeater, which was used quite heavily for several events on or near the SPSU campus, most notably during the Rugby matches. Thank you, Jeff, for your able assistance!

Lowry KM4Z assisted me on Wednesday by participating in a demo of IRLP (Internet Radio Linking Project) on the ARC 146.82 repeater. We had a schedule with Paul VE7AVV in British Columbia, Canada, arranged through Penn K4PE. Paul and Hugo VE7API attended a meeting of their Emergency Social Services organization and demonstrated IRLP to this group of non-hams. They were impressed with the technology, and were interested in hearing about ARES activity in Atlanta and Georgia. Lowry gave a very good overview of ARES activity in our area. Thank you, Lowry, for jumping in on short notice! In addition to talking about ARES with the Canadians, we also were able to expose them to the Georgia Games by also putting on the radio the Director of Public Relations and Media Coordinator for the Games, Jeff Seagraves. He gave a short talk about the Games and about the importance of ham radio in the successful execution of the Georgia Games.

For my part, I spent nine days either as Net Control or shadowing the Executive Director as he visited almost every one of the nearly 40 venues hosting Georgia Games events. There were only a few that we didn't get to visit. The quality of the competition and the caliber of the athletes was inspiring. These folks are serious about their sports!! As I understand it, a couple of national records may have been set in some of the events this year! That's just amazing!

Again, thanks to those of you who participated this year. The Georgia Games director and his staff expressed their appreciation for all of the assistance provided by a dedicated group of amateur radio communicators.



## The Internet Radio Linking Project

*By Mike Kovack, K4MJK*

I was listening to 2 meters one evening and I heard a strange callsign it was a Canadian station I thought he was visiting Atlanta but he was in Thunder Bay Canada !!! DX on 2 meters I thought, I was very curious as to what was happening so I picked up the mic and threw out my callsign and asked what was going on. A station came back to me (I was so amazed I forgot the other guys call) and said that the repeaters were linked via the Internet Repeater Linking Project and sent me to the websight for more info.

I was automatically hooked wow DX via 2 meters. So I checked out the sight at [www.irlp.net](http://www.irlp.net) and learned all about the system. It is a system that takes audio from one repeater, transfers it to a digital packet sends it over the Internet then brings it back to analog and transmits it on the other repeater output. The idea came from the Internet phone concept. There are about 120 nodes throughout the world and there are two repeaters capable of linking to the system here in Atlanta the W4DOC 146.82- repeater has access for members to bring up the system but you can talk if the system is up member or not, and the 146.775- N4NEQ machine in Marietta is almost always up that's where I found the system.

I have made many contacts to Montana, California, Nevada, Florida All over Canada, Australia and many more it seems to be catching on. I have also heard allot of Extra class operators on the system so even the big boys like the new toy.

So who said you need HF to talk around the world it may be cheating but it is still a neat new toy for all of us to enjoy and it just might spark that DX bug in some guys that have not been interested in up-grading before.  
So until next time this is K4MJK saying 73!!

### What I did on My Summer Vacation

*(Continued from page 11)*

Paul is one of several volunteers who take turns manning the station each day. He's president of his local club and one of the friendliest guys you'll ever meet. Sometimes, he said, its crowded but guest operators are sorta rare. He was eager to give me a chance to operate. Fortunately, I carry a copy of my ticket in my wallet, and ten minutes after I arrived, I was calling CQ.

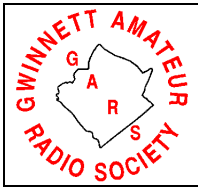
Band conditions were terrible but I snagged AA3AT on my second call. I made it quick. I had the antenna pointed toward Georgia in hopes of contacting a GARS member ("Hey, guess where I am") but even Bill wasn't on the air. Then my luck ran out. Somewhere, someone cranked up some major interference. The noise level jumped to 10 over and it wouldn't go away. (Paul said he'd never heard it before, but Congress was still in session and I think the BS index rose to such high levels that it began generating RF. Paul, not knowing my political views, was just too cautious to tell me.) Thus ended my short stint as NN3SI's guest operator.

Still, it was a lot of fun and a rare experience. If you're going to DC plan your trip better than I did. Call in advance and make arrangements ahead of time. Carry a copy of your license and try not to go unless Congress is gone.

**GWINNETT AMATEUR RADIO  
SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 88  
Lilburn, GA 30048

Receive the **Garzette** via email...  
contact Scott Hartlage,  
KF4PWI@arrl.net



*Giving Amateur Radio Spirit!*

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[www.gars.org](http://www.gars.org)



## Upcoming Events

*Committee Chairs:*

*Let's fill this feature with dates and events to keep GARS members looking ahead!*



### **August 2001**

Executive committee  
**16th** GARS Club Meeting

### **September 2001**

Executive committee  
**20th** GARS Club Meeting

### **October 2001**

Executive committee  
**18th** GARS Club Meeting  
**20th** GARS Auction at  
Briscoe Field

### **November 2001**

Executive committee  
**15th** GARS Club Meeting

### **December 2001**

Executive committee  
GARS Holiday Party

### **January 2002**

Executive committee  
**17th** GARS Club Meeting  
26th Tech Fest

Meeting Time  
&  
Location

3rd Thursday, 7:30 PM  
Central Baptist  
Church,  
Gwinnett Drive,  
Lawrenceville  
Talk in 147.075(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone